Receipt Number 570065

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

Luke Seay 90 Beechwood Ave. Pontiac, MI 48340

Plaintiff,

v.

GC Services Limited Partnership c/o The Corporation Company, Registered Agent 30600 Telegraph Road Bingham Farms, MI 48025

Defendant.

Case: 2:08-cv-11770 Judge: Friedman, Bernard A MJ: Pepe, Steven D

Filed: 04-28-2008 At 02:23 PM CMP SEAY V. GC SERVICES LP (TAM)

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES UNDER THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION

PRACTICES ACT AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF

JURY DEMAND ENDORSED HEREIN

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Jurisdiction is founded on 28 U.S.C. §1331 pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), 15 U.S.C. §1692. Venue is proper in this district because this is the judicial district where all of the events giving rise to the cause of action took place.

# FACTS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

- 2. The Plaintiff is a person who incurred a consumer debt primarily for personal, family or household purposes.
- 3. Defendant is a corporation doing business primarily as a consumer debt collector.
- 4. Defendant is a debt collector as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).
- 5. The Plaintiff is a "consumer" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(3).
- 6. The debt in question qualifies as a "debt" as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(5).

- 7. Defendant is either the holder of the debt or was retained by the current holder to collect the debt.
- 8. Plaintiff filed this claim within the timeframe permitted under the FDCPA.
- 9. On or around November 13, 2007, Defendant telephoned Plaintiff and left a message.
- 10. During this communication, Defendant failed to identify Defendant by company name and failed to state that Defendant was a debt collector.
- 11. During this communication, Defendant indicated that Plaintiff's debt was placed with Defendant for purposes of conducting an asset search, not for purposes of collection.
- 12. On or around November 14, 2007, Defendant telephoned Plaintiff and let a message indicating that Defendant had telephoned Plaintiff's work.
- 13. During this communication, Defendant ominously threatened Plaintiff that Defendant had verified Plaintiff's employment and indicated that Plaintiff only had until Friday to act on the debt.
- 14. On or around November 14, 2007, Plaintiff returned Defendant's telephone call and notified Defendant that Plaintiff did not wish to receive Defendant's phone calls at work.
- 15. During this communication, Plaintiff also notified Defendant that Plaintiff was represented by an attorney for bankruptcy and provided the law firm's contact information.
- 16. Defendant responded that Plaintiff's notice of representation was "bull [expletive]" and that Plaintiff needed to get someone to pay Plaintiff's bills.
- 17. Despite Plaintiff's notice, Defendant continued to telephone Plaintiff's place of employment on a near daily basis, often times calling multiple times per day, throughout November 2007.

- 18. During several of the above referenced telephone communications, Defendant spoke to Plaintiff's coworkers, whom also informed Defendant that Plaintiff could not receive Defendant's telephone calls at work.
- 19. Despite Plaintiff's notice, Defendant telephoned Plaintiff on or around November 15, 2007 and left a message for Plaintiff.
- 20. On or around November 16, Defendant telephoned Plaintiff's place of employment despite repeat notices not to telephone Plaintiff at work.
- 21. During this communication, Defendant was extremely rude and hostile with Plaintiff's coworker.
- 22. During this communication, Defendant accused Plaintiff's co-worker of lying about Plaintiff's whereabouts.
- 23. Despite Plaintiff's notice, Defendant telephoned Plaintiff on or around November 19, 2007 and left a message for Plaintiff.
- 24. During this communication, Defendant threatened to garnish twenty-five percent of Plaintiff's wages.
- 25. Despite Plaintiff's notice, Defendant telephoned Plaintiff on or around November 20, 2007 and left a message for Plaintiff.
- 26. Despite Plaintiff's notice, Defendant telephoned Plaintiff on or around November 30, 2007 and left a message for Plaintiff.
- 27. During this communication, Defendant identified Defendant as being from a "firm," deliberately misleading Plaintiff into believing that Defendant was associated with an attorney's office.

- 28. During all of the above referenced messages that Defendant left for Plaintiff, Defendant failed to properly identify Defendant and notify Plaintiff that Defendant was a debt collector.
- 29. Defendant damaged Plaintiff emotionally and mentally and has caused substantial anxiety and stress.
- 30. Defendant violated the FDCPA.

#### **COUNT ONE**

## Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 31. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 32. In demanding payment in the amount that it did, Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692e(2) in that it falsely represented the character and amount of the debt.

#### **COUNT TWO**

# Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 33. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 34. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692c by calling Plaintiff at work after it was informed that Plaintiff did not wish to receive Defendant's phone calls at work.

## **COUNT THREE**

## Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 35. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 36. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692d in that defendant used obscene and/or abusive language during its communications in furtherance of debt collection.

#### **COUNT FOUR**

## Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

37. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.

38. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692c in that it contacted Plaintiff notwithstanding the fact that Plaintiff told Defendant that Plaintiff was represented by an attorney.

#### **COUNT FIVE**

#### Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 39. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 40. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692c in that it contacted a third party and failed to comply with 15 U.S.C. §1692b.

#### **COUNT SIX**

#### Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 41. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 42. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692f in that its actions were unfair and/or unconscionable means to collect a debt.

#### **COUNT SEVEN**

#### Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 43. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 44. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692e, generally, by having non-attorneys state that they could control the decision to litigate and the timing and scope of the litigation, when in fact this would be an attorney decision.

#### **COUNT EIGHT**

#### Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 45. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 46. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692e in that defendant failed to advise Plaintiff during verbal communications that defendant was a debt collector.

#### **COUNT NINE**

## Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 47. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 48. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692e in that it threatened legal action where such action was not contemplated, and stated for the sole purpose of terrifying the Plaintiff.

#### **COUNT TEN**

## Violation of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act

- 49. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 50. The Defendant violated 15 U.S.C. §1692e by making misrepresentations during its conversations with Plaintiff.

#### **COUNT ELEVEN**

## Invasion of Privacy by Intrusion upon Seclusion

- 51. Plaintiff incorporates each of the preceding allegations as if specifically stated herein.
- 52. Defendant intentionally interfered, physically or otherwise, with the solitude, seclusion, and or private concerns or affairs of the Plaintiff.
- 53. Defendant intentionally caused harm to the Plaintiff's emotional well being by engaging in highly offensive conduct in the course of collecting a debt, as described herein.
- 54. Plaintiff has a reasonable expectation of privacy in Plaintiff's solitude, seclusion, and or private concerns or affairs.
- 55. The intrusion by Defendant occurred in a way that would be highly offensive to a reasonable person in that position.
- 56. As a result of such invasions of privacy, Plaintiff is entitled to actual damages in an amount to be determined at trial from Defendant.

#### JURY DEMAND

57. Plaintiff demands a trial by jury.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- 58. Plaintiff prays for the following relief:
  - Judgment against Defendant for actual damages, statutory damages pursuant to 15
     U.S.C. §1692k and costs, and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.
     §1692k.
  - b. Judgment, in an amount to be determined at trial, against Defendant for the Invasion of Privacy by Intrusion upon Seclusion.
  - c. For such other legal and/or equitable relief as the Court deems appropriate.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

By: Timothy J. Sostrin

Attorney for Plaintiff LEGAL HELPERS, P.C.

20 W. Kinzie Street, Suite 1300

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The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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IV. NATURE OF SUI	T (Select One Box Only)					OWNED OF THEFE
CONTRACT  110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise  REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury  CIVIL RIGHTS  441 Voting 442 Employment 443 Housing/ Accommodations 444 Welfare 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	PERSONAL INJURY  362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice  365 Personal Injury - Product Liability  368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability  PERSONAL PROPERTY  370 Other Fraud  371 Truth in Lending  380 Other Personal Property Damage  385 Property Damage Product Liability  PRISONER PETITIONS  510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus:  530 General  535 Death Penalty		FEITURE/PENALTY 510 Agriculture 520 Other Food & Drug 525 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 530 Liquor Laws 540 R.R. & Truck 550 Airline Regs. 560 Occupational Safety/Health 590 Other LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act 740 Railway Labor Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	BANKRUPTCY  □ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 □ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 840 Trademark  SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	OTHER STATUTES  400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 810 Selective Service 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 875 Customer Challenge 13 USC 3410 890 Other Statutory Actions 894 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 894 Energy Allocation Act 895 Freedom of Information Act 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Access to Justice 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
Original D 2 R	State Court	Remanded from Appellate Court	Rec	nstated or sanoth opened (spec		
VI. CAUSE OF ACT	ION 15 USC 1692 Brief description of ca		filing	(Do not cite jurisdiction	al statutes unless diversity):	
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	Violations of FDCPA  CHECK IF THIS UNDER F.R.C.P	IS A CLASS ACTION 23	Ī	DEMAND \$ 20,000.00	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND	if demanded in complaint:  Yes  No
VIII. RELATED CAS	SE(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 4/24/	108	SIGNATURE OF ATT	ORNE	Y OF RECORD		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY  RECEIPT #	AMOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. JU	DGE

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# PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 83.11

1.	Is this a case that has been previously dismissed?	Yes
If yes, giv	e the following information:	<b>✓</b> No
Court:		
Case No.:		
Judge:		
2.	Other than stated above, are there any pending or previously discontinued or dismissed companion cases in this or any other court, including state court? (Companion cases are matters in which it appears substantially similar evidence will be offered or the same or related parties are present and the cases arise out of the same transaction or occurrence.)	☐ Yes ✓ No
If yes, giv	e the following information:	
Court:		
Case No.:		
Judge:		
Notes :		